UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Distr.
LIMITED

A/SPC/L.22
6 December 1957

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twelfth session
SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
Agenda item 68

COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

Burma, Ceylon, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Liberia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Thailand: joint draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Taking into account the considerable increase in the membership of the United Nations,

Taking also into account that the General Committee should be so constituted as to ensure its representative character on the basis of a balanced geographical distribution among its Members as provided in Rule 38 of the rules of procedure,

Believing that it is desirable to enlarge the composition of the General Committee in order to meet this requirement,

Noting that the General Committee is composed of the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Main Committees,

Taking also into account the generally observed practice on the geographical distribution of Chairmanship of the Main Committee, viz., two from Asia-Africa, two from Latin America, two from Western Europe and other countries, and one from Eastern Europe,

1. Decides to amend as follows rules 31 and 38 of its rules of procedure:

"Rule 31

"The General Assembly shall elect a President and thirteen Vice-Presidents, who shall hold office until the close of the session at which they are elected. The Vice-Presidents shall be elected, after the election of the Chairmen of the Seven Main Committees referred to in rule 101, on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee.

"Rule 38

The General Committee shall comprise the President of the General Assembly, who shall preside, the thirteen Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the Seven Main Committees. No two members of the General Committee shall be members of the same delegation, and it shall be so constituted as to ensure its representative character. Chairmen of other committees upon which all Members have the right to be represented and which are established by the General Assembly to meet during the session, shall be entitled to attend meetings of the General Committee and may participate without vote in the discussion."

2. Decides that the thirteen Vice-Presidents shall be elected according to the following geographical pattern:

(a) The practice of electing the five Permanent Members of the Security Council as Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly to continue unchanged;

(b) The remaining Vice-Presidents to be selected from four major regions of the world, namely:

i. Asia-Africa

ii. Eastern Europe

iii. Latin America

iv. Western Europe and other countries

(c) Four Vice-Presidents to be elected from region i, two each from regions iii and iv, and one from region ii.

(d) The region from which the President is elected will however reduce by one the number of Vice-Presidencies allocated in (c) above.